

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LONDON 12536 291311Z  
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W  
-----002405 291314Z /45  
P 291257Z JUL 77  
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6628  
INFO AMEMBASSY DUBLIN PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 12536

STADIS////////////////////////////////////

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1  
TAGS: PFOR, PINT, UK, EI, US  
SUBJECT: NORTHERN IRELAND OFFICE POSITION

REF: A) CROWLEY/LILLIS MEMCON OF JULY 14;  
B) NIMITZ/FERRIS MEMCON OF JULY 19;  
C) LONDON 9787 (NOTAL)

1. REFS A AND B REFER, INTER ALIA, TO THE BELIEF THAT THERE IS A DIFFERENCE BETWEEN FCO AND THE NORTHERN IRELAND OFFICE (NIO) ON THE QUESTION OF ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE. WE HAVE SEEN NO RPT NO EVIDENCE OF ANY DIVERGENCE WITHIN HMG ON THIS QUESTION; INDEED WE HAVE RECEIVED A SPECIFIC STATEMENT FROM A SENIOR NIO OFFICIAL--UNDER SECRETARY JOHN BOURN--THAT NIO DOES NOT BELIEVE SUCH A SCHEME WOULD BE WORKABLE (REF C).

2. ON TWO SUBSEQUENT OCCASIONS--AN INFORMAL LUNCHEON AND A FAREWELL CALL ON BOURN. WHO HAS MOVED TO DEFENSE MINISTRY--EMBOFF RAISED THE POSSIBILITY OF INTERNAL HMG DIFFERENCES WITH BOURN, NOTING THAT FERRIS PRINCIPALS  
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HAD REASON (UNSPECIFIED) TO BELIEVE THAT NIO WAS ACTUALLY RECEPTIVE TO THE PROPOSAL, BUT THAT NEGATIVE FCO VIEW HAD PREVAILED. ON BOTH OCCASIONS BOURN. WHOM WE HAVE FOUND CANDID AND ACCURATE IN DESCRIBING HMG VIEWS OVER THE PAST TWO YEARS, ASSURED EMBOFF THAT THERE WAS NO DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE TWO DEPARTMENTS ON THE ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE QUESTION.

3. WE ARE INCLINED TO GIVE GREATER WEIGHT TO BOURN'S  
ASSURANCES THAN TO HEARSAY EVIDENCE MENTIONED IN REFS  
A AND B, AND BELIEVE DEPARTMENT MAY WISH TO CLARIFY THIS  
POINT WITH FERRIS'S PRINCIPALS.

BREWSTER

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** INFORMATION EXCHANGE, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS)  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 29-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977LONDON12536  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** X1  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770272-0675  
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**Office:** ACTION SS  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS, STADIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
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**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS, STADIS  
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**Retention:** 0  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 1838864  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** NORTHERN IRELAND OFFICE POSITION  
**TAGS:** PFOR, PINT, UK, EI, US  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
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